IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please **AMEND** the claims in accordance with the following.

Please **CANCEL** claim 3.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting method for imposing, by a server, a charge for using an application program installed on a client, the method comprising:

a function performance detecting step for detecting that a ~~predetermined~~particular function of an application program installed on the client was performed;

a user specifying step for specifying a user who performed the ~~predetermined~~particular function; ~~and~~

an accounting step for imposing charges on a user specified by the user specifying step according to ~~the~~ frequency of performance of a particular function of the application program detected by the function performance detecting step; and

an application program specifying step for specifying the application program performing the particular function, wherein the accounting step imposes a charge according to the application program specified by the application program specifying step.

2. (ORIGINAL) The accounting method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined function is to output data from the client to an external device.

3. (CANCELLED)

4. (ORIGINAL) The accounting method according to claim 1, further comprising a user registration step for performing user registration in the case of the predetermined function having been performed for the first time.

5.   (ORIGINAL) The accounting method according to claim 1, further comprising an imposed charge amount informing step for informing a client which made a request about the amount of charges imposed at that time.

6.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A server for imposing a charge for using an application program installed on a client, the server comprising:

function performance detecting means for detecting that a ~~predetermined~~particular function of a program installed on the client was performed;

user specifying means for specifying a user who performed the ~~predetermined~~particular function; ~~and~~

accounting means for imposing charges on a user specified by the user specifying means according to ~~the~~ frequency of performance <u>of a particular function of the application program</u> detected by the function performance detecting means<u>; and</u>

<u>application program specifying means for specifying the application program performing the particular function, wherein the accounting means imposes a charge according to the application program specified by the application program specifying means</u>.

7.   (ORIGINAL) The accounting method according to claim 1, further comprising a charge deducting step for deducting automatically charges imposed by the accounting step from an account being under the user's name.

8.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting method for imposing, by a server, a charge for using an application program installed on a client, the method comprising:

a function performance detecting step for detecting that a ~~predetermined~~particular function of an application program installed on the client was performed;

a user specifying information obtaining step for obtaining information for specifying a user in ~~the~~ case of the performance of the ~~predetermined~~particular function <u>of the application program</u> having been detected by the function performance detecting step; and

a user specifying information sending step for sending the server the information for specifying a user obtained by the user specifying information obtaining step.

9.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A client for having a server impose a charge for using

an application program installed on a client, the client comprising:

function performance detecting means for detecting that a ~~predetermined~~particular function of a program installed on the client was performed;

user specifying information obtaining means for obtaining information for specifying a user in ~~the~~ case of the performance of the ~~predetermined~~particular function of the program having been detected by the function performance detecting means; and

user specifying information sending means for sending the server the information for specifying a user obtained by the user specifying information obtaining means.

10.　　(CURRENTLY AMENDED) A software usage charging system, comprising:

a programmed client computer to execute~~executing~~ software and ~~detecting the~~to detect usage of a particular function of the software ~~function usage~~ by a user; and

a programmed server computer in communication with the client computer ~~and~~ ~~charging~~to charge the user according to use of the particular function of the software function, in response to ~~the detecting~~detected usage of the particular function of the software by the programmed client computer.